PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have appeared in recent newspapers, calling for contract-tenders for the erection of a school in St. John's Wood Park; a pier 500 yards long, with a dock, and other works, at New Holland, Lincolnshire; five large magazines, sundry storehouses, workshops, &c., and a pier, and basin, wharf, tanks, &c., near Plymouth; an engine and boiler-house, filter-drain and well, with other works, connected with the Carlisle Water Works; certain additions to the laundry, and other works, on the Poplar Union Workhouse premises; for the restoration and enlargement of Landwade Hall, near Newmarket; and for alterations and additions to the Tattingstone House of Industry; for the performance of certain works, in building walls for three burying-grounds, at Oxford; repairs of thirty-seven miles of road between Southampton and Salisbury; of footways and carriage-ways at Westminster; pavement in Holborn; turnpike-roads from Sudbury to Bury St. Edmunds; and for a supply of 2,000 feet of Carline Nose stone kerb at West Ham; and a quantity of flints, gravel, stone, and other road materials, near Portsmouth; also for the whole works on twelve miles and thirteen miles of the Shropshire Union railways, three-quarter mile of the Glasgow, Ayr, &c.; 1,100 yards of the Drumpeller; and four miles seven furlongs of the Glasgow, Kilmarnock, &c, including 560 lineal yards of tunnelling; for 200 tons cast-iron chairs for the Glasgow and Carlisle railway; and for a supply to her Majesty's several dockyards of Welsh or Cornish slates; and brass, tin, and zinc; and of 200,000 blue bricks at Birmingham, and twelve miles in length of 12-inch cast-iron socket pipes and appendages for Boston Water-works.

SCARBORO' CHURCH COMPETITION.—Fourteen plans were sent in for the restoration of the parish church of Scarboro', and were considered by the committee. The first premium (50*l.*) was awarded to Mr. Christian. The *Hull Packet* says,—"They had some difficulty in deciding which were the second and third best, as the plans of Mr. Pearson, of London, and Mr. Johnson, of Lichfield, were upon a par in point of merit, and they determined to divide the two lower premiums of 30*l.* and 20*l.* between them, making them both 25*l.* each. Mr. Christian is to be entrusted with the entire renovation of the building. The whole of the galleries are to be cleared away, the nave to be thrown open, considerably lengthened, and a stained-glass window to be added at the east end; the pewing to be entirely renewed; the south transept, at present used as a school-room, to be thrown open; the north side and west end to be entirely rebuilt; the old wood-work to be taken out of the remaining windows, and the mullions and tracery to be restored, and the roofs to be considerably heightened."

CHURCH BUILDING IN THE ISLAND OF GRANADA.—A recent letter from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Granada, in the West Indies, says, that since 1838, when there was but one little chapel in it, six new churches have been erected there, all in mason-work, and slated or tiled—they are from 80 feet in length, by 40 in width, to 130 by 50 feet, and high in proportion. The letter continues:—"The poor negroes carried the stones of which some of them are built *from one to seven miles on their heads.* This you could not believe unless on competent authority. *I vouch for its truth;* nay, the stones of which one of the churches has been erected, were actually dived for by the negroes into the sea, and put into a flat they had anchored at the spot to be rowed afterwards to the shore, and have the contents thereof carried on the heads of the willing and devoted negroes to the site of the building."

PROPOSED NEW CHURCHES IN THE METROPOLIS.—The new vicar of St. Pancras has proposed to the parishioners to raise funds for *ten* new churches, and has been liberally responded to. A portion of the parish of Bermondsey has been made into an ecclesiastical district, and a new church will forthwith be erected.

GREAT BELL FOR MONTREAL.—The great bell, recently cast by Messrs. Mears for the cathedral at Montreal, weighs 13¼ tons. For casting it 25 tons of metal were fused, and the mould was filled in twelve minutes. The diameter at the mouth is 8 feet 7 inches, and the height to the shoulder 5 feet 11 inches.

ENTICING AND HARBOURING ENGAGED WORKMEN.—In the northern circuit, on the 17th inst., Mr. Pim, an extensive iron-founder at Hull, charged Messrs. Joseph Butler and Co., ironfounders, at Stanningley, near Leeds, with enticing away four moulders, who in consequence quitted the employment of the plaintiff and entered that of the defendants, where three of them continued to be harboured notwithstanding a notice and warning given by the plaintiff's attorney to the defendants. The case of the plaintiffs on the issue as to enticing the men away, mainly rested on a letter written in the name of the defendants to "Mr. John Bagshaw, ironmonger, Hull," offering him employment. The defendant, however, endeavoured to shew that the men had acted under the influence of the "Moulders Union," which compelled them to quit the one employment, if not to enter the other; and the jury at length found for the defendant on the issue as to enticing the men away, but for the plaintiff on that which charged the harbouring; and they assessed the plaintiff's damages at 30*l.*

A PARISH WITH NINETEEN PAVING BOARDS!—"How inefficient the cleansing of the poorer districts must be, may be inferred from a curious fact stated by the witness (Mr. Worrall) that in the parish of St. Pancras, in which he resides, there are nineteen paving boards! In a parish with nineteen paving boards, it will not excite surprise, that 'in some parts there is no paving at all;' that 'where there is any, it is inefficient;' that 'the paving in those districts which are inhabited by the poorer classes—courts, alleys, and lanes—is generally neglected;' that the surveyors of pavements neglect their duties; that the persons who contract to remove the ashes and dirt, take away the profitable ashes, but leave the unprofitable filth for months together in the poorer districts, though bound to remove it every fortnight; that the very places, in fact, which require most cleansing are most neglected." — *Ranking's Half Yearly Abstract* Vol. IV.

ILLUMINATIVE GAS FROM EXCREMENTITIOUS MATTER.—In France the scarcity of coal, and perhaps the enterprising and peculiar spirit of research among its chemists, has led to the discovery that excrementitious matter may be made to yield illuminative as well as other gas, while the product or residue will still afford a rich and valuable manure. From what is said about the mixture or puddling into mortar, &c., we are led to suspect that the invention or discovery, which has been patented, has some sly connection with the singular process of the "French Count and his engineers," who lately astonished the inhabitants of Birmingham; but, at all events, the material is to be converted into inodorous mortar, which is to be sold by the patentees or others, at 5d. per cwt., ready prepared for the manufacture of a gas which is declared to be superior to ordinary gas, and evolved in double the quantity that an equal weight of coal is capable of producing.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A return, obtained by Mr. Moffatt, M.P., shows that the total amount of money that has been expended in the new buildings and fittings of the British Museum, from the commencement of the rebuilding in 1823, up to Christmas, 1846, is 606,500*l.* The estimate of the cost of completing the building, in which sum is included the expense for fittings in the years 1847-48, amounts to the sum of 106,911*l.* The amount that may be required for fittings in subsequent years cannot, at present, be estimated by the architect, as it will depend upon the nature and extent of the collections in progress.

REMOVAL OF OLD BUILDINGS IN WINDSOR CASTLE.—It is said that the range of buildings built in the reign of James I., between the Salisbury and Julius Cæsar Towers, and hitherto occupied as dwellings by certain of the Military Knights of Windsor, are to be taken down forthwith, in order to improve the prospect from some of her Majesty's apartments.

NEW BUILDINGS' BILL AND THE MASTER CARPENTERS.—The committee in the above bill will again meet on Wednesday evening next, when the schedules in the present bill will be taken into consideration. As the schedules form that part of the bill which applies particularly to the public in the practical working of the enactment, they specially invite communications on the subject.

MR. RUBEN—AT PRAGUE.—When the Bohemian committee of Parliament, and the art societies of that realm had decided on the *regeneration* of art, they, as almost a matter of necessity, turned their eyes towards *Munich*, and Mr. Ruben was made director of the R. A. Whatever *one* man could do, under given circumstances and in a given period, Mr. R. has certainly done. The Society of Arts received by him a complete remodelling. A connection with other (even foreign) societies was established; artists of renown in every country were *invited* to send specimens for the exhibitions, and an especial fund was created for the emulation of a great art-work. At the Academy also, important improvements were introduced; more progressed pupils obtained rooms of their own (*ateliers*). Mr. Ruben formed a collection of utensils, as well as of ornaments, weapons, &c., and constantly led his pupils *outwards* into the open stores of nature, for directing and invigorating their sense by that never failing source of observation and study. The results, a greater art appreciation and art patronage, are obvious, and require no further detail. Looking around the whole extent of the land and its history,—Mr. Ruben originated the execution of worthy art-works; as the monument of Emperor Charles IV., whose model has been executed at Dresden, by Mr. Hahnel, the casting at Nuremberg, by Mr. Burgschmidt. A stone quay has been erected along the Moldau, on which a splendid fountain will be placed, of which Mr. Kranner is the architect, Mr. Max (a pupil of Schwanthaler), the sculptor. Mr. R. has projected the completing of the *Belvidere*—a building of the early renaissance period, and its *adornation* with frescoes from Bohemian history. Mr. Ruben is also the director of the studies at the Industrial Institution (*Gewerbverein*).

THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB COMPETITION.—We have heard with much astonishment that one, at all events, of the committee acting in this matter, is visiting the offices of certain of the competitors, and examining the designs about to be submitted. Such a proceeding is calculated entirely to destroy confidence in their good faith, and should be immediately reprehended and prevented by the body at large. They have taken upon themselves an onerous duty, and are bound to perform it honestly and fairly, indeed probably wish to do so, but act in ignorance. We store the names for a future occasion.

ART IN ROME.—The Pope has commissioned a number of the first Italian artists to execute, partly from original portraits, partly from medals and coins, the likenesses of all the sovereign pontiffs his predecessors (238 in number), that these may be copied in mosaic to adorn the Basilica of St. Paul, where a similar series perished in the fire. The pictures will afterwards be permanently placed in the Vatican Museum.

SMITHFIELD A PROFITABLE SITE FOR BUILDING.—We are told that the income on city tolls from Smithfield market is under 5,000*l.* a-year. Now, there cannot be the slightest doubt that if converted into building sites for squares, &c., the ground rents would yield a much larger revenue than that.

IMMENSE CASTING.—On the night of the 11th inst., a beam for a railway bridge was cast at the foundry of Messrs. Stephenson and Co., at the Lound, Kendal, of the immense weight of nine tons, being nearly two tons heavier than any casting hitherto made at the same foundry.

MONUMENT TO LORD BYRON.—A monument to Lord Byron at Missolonghi, attached to the vice-consulate, is spoken of. The house in which the poet died no longer exists, having been blown up; the proprietor has offered the site for the erection of the monument, and a handsome sum towards it.

SUMMER RAMBLES FOR ANTIQUARIES.—The British Archæological Association will hold their next congress in Warwick at the end of July, and the Archæological Institute will meet in Norwich about the same time.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.—The exhibition of works of art in the gallery of this society, Suffolk-street, will be opened to the public on Monday.

WASTE OF SILVER.—To put the silver edging to muslin, which is always torn off and thrown away before converting the material to use, costs the country 20,000*l.* a year!

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